Other claims

Claims 2, 3, 6, 8 to 13 depend from claim 1 and are patentable over Damico et al. in view of Araki et al. for at least the same reasons as claim 1. Furthermore, Applicant fails to understand how the Examiner is applying Damico et al. to disclose the elements of these claims.

For example, against claim 3, the Examiner states that Damico et al. discloses "the link is a text file containing a path to the first file on the third computer (see col. 11, lines 37-44...)." 10/3/03 Office Action, p. 5. The cited lines of Damico et al. states:

The redirect.cgi program is significant to the operation of the present invention because, among other things, this program allows the UNIXTM symbolic link information that was originally passed when the user arrived at the home page of OLS site 128 to be retained as the user moves between pages at OLS site 128. Thus, the redirecting.cgi program insures that the UNIXTM symbolic link information provided by a co-marketer will be present when the enrollment means 145 attempts to enroll the user on OLS 140.

Damico et al., col. 11, lines 35 to 44. As discussed above, part of Damico et al. is concerned with preserving the co-marketer identifier in the special URL as the user jumps from page to page in the online service website 128. To do so, a program is called to extract the co-marketer identifier and appends it to the URLs of other pages of the online website 128 so that the co-marketer identifier is preserved.

Next, in step 660, for each internal URL in the destination page which includes a string for calling the page--link.cgi program, the page--link.cgi program appends the UNIXTM symbolic link/CMID code (i.e., CM1) originally passed as an argument to the program to the end of the URL. In addition, in step 670, for each external URL in the destination page which includes the "page--link.cgi" string, the page--link.cgi program appends the UNIXTM symbolic link/CMID originally passed to the program followed by a UNIXTM symbolic link/CMID representing OLS site 128 (e.g.,/OLS) to the end of the URL.

Damico et al., col. 12, lines 44 to 49. As quoted above, the cited lines do not disclose a link that is "a text file containing a path to the first file on the third computer" as recited in claim 3. Applicant simply cannot see the correspondence between the disclosed elements of the cited lines and the allegedly anticipated elements of claim 3.

As another example, against claim 8, the Examiner states that Damico et al. discloses "determining if a second directory on the third computer has reached a predetermined capacity (see col. 3, lines 31-34 ...)." The cited lines states, "The user is then moved from the first location on the WWW to the second location on the WWW in accordance with the destination URL formed by the redirecting means." Damico et al., col. 3, lines 31 to 34. Again, Applicant cannot see the correspondence between the disclosed elements of the cited lines and the allegedly anticipated elements of claim 8.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to identify the elements of Damico et al. by their reference numbers and/or name that correspond to the elements in these claims.

Claim 33 is patentable over Damico et al. in view of Araki et al. for at least the same reasons described above.

Claims 34 to 43 depend from claim 33 and are patentable over Damico et al. in view of Araki et al. for at least the same reasons as claim 33.

In summary, claims 1-3, 6, 8 to 13, and 33 to 43 were pending in the above-identified application. This response amends claims 1 and 33. For the above reasons, Applicants respectfully request allowance of claims 1-3, 6, 8 to 13, and 33 to 43. Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (408)382-0480x206.

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Respectfully submitted,

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